Foreign investment in steel sector

1313. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign countries have expressed their desire to invest in the steel sector of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Some foreign investors have expressed their desire to set up steel projects in the country.

(b) The details of such major foreign investors are:—

(i) POSCO India Limited (a subsidiary of Pohang Steel Company (POSCO) of South Korea) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Orissa, on 22.06.2005, to set up a 12 million tonne steel project in Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 51,000 crores.

(ii) Arcellor - Mittal India Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Orissa, on 22.12.2006, to set up a 12 million tonne steel project in Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 40,000 crores.

(iii) Arcellor - Mittal India Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Jharkhand on 08.10.2005, to set up a 12 million tonne steel project in Jharkhand at an estimated cost of Rs. 40,000 crores.

(iv) Sinosteel India Pvt. Ltd., China has expressed interest to set up a 5 million tonne steel project in Jharkhand.

(c) As per the Government's Policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is permitted in the steel sector under the automatic route where no prior aproval is required.

Revival to Kulti works under IISCO Steel Plant

1314. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to revive Kulti works, under IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) in near future;

(b) if so, what will be the future products of this plant;

(c) the details of the investment planned so far; and

(d) what kind of technology upgradation is being planned so far and the nature of diversification is being contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Board has accorded in-principle approval for starting production facilities at Kulti; *viz.* Non-Ferrous Foundry, Steel Foundry and required supporting shops like Pattern Shop and Machine Shop. The future products of this plant would be Steel castings, Non-Ferrous castings and engineering spares. The capital